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JUL 7 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

SUBJECT: Transmittal of SE Monthly FF and FM Activity Report

1. In transmitting the SE FF and FM report for June 1953, we would like to direct your attention to several matters which may be of special interest:

a. Indications of developing interest by the Balkan Pact nations in stepped-up diplomatic activity against satellite countries appeared during the month. On 24 June formal announcement was made in Belgrade of a Pact meeting in Athens 7 July. Earlier in June, the Yugoslav I. S. proposed a conference with CIA to exchange views on matters of mutual interest with respect to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

b. Threatened rifts in joint British-American operations against Albania, caused by dissension in the National Committee for Free Albania, were eliminated on the home level. Although SE/P and GPF were prepared to participate in formal London meetings on the subject, this action proved unnecessary.

c. Two agent teams in Albania are out of contact with base and presumed to have met serious difficulties. One group, exfiltrating for debriefing, was ambushed near the Greek border shortly before W/T contact was lost.

d. Yugoslav reports of high agent casualties on the Rumanian border caused postponement of a scheduled operation involving transfer of an agent team to the Yugoslav I. S. for infiltration into Rumania. Intensified security activity also has increased difficulties in Bulgarian border operations.

2. The economic situation in Greece continues serious with several one-day strikes called during June. In addition, the threat remains of disintegration of EPEK, largest opposition political party in Greece.

3. Efforts to establish representative and usable exile committees for Bulgaria and Rumania are continuing, with some progress for Bulgaria, very little for Rumania.

[ Acting Chief, SE ]

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ALBANIA

June 1953

1. GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS

Since his return to Rome on 11 June, [ ] BOFLAND representative there, has endeavored, in cooperation with the British representative, to resolve the differences existing between members of the National Committee for Free Albania. At one point it appeared that it would be necessary to refer the matter to a higher level, and [ ] and [ ] were prepared to discuss the outstanding problems with MI-6 representatives while in London. However, [ ] and his British colleague have now agreed upon a mutually acceptable position, and it is believed they will succeed in obtaining the agreement of all factions in the NCFA to the proposed settlement.

[ ] formerly SE/CFF and now [ ] at the request of SE-1, conferred with King Zog in Alexandria on 24-25 June. Matters discussed included agent recruitment, U.S. visitors' visas for King Zog and his immediate family, and recent developments with respect to Albania. [ ] stopped in Athens en route to and from [ ] in order to consult with and report to the BOFLAND Project

2. THOPSIS

The Albanian project BOFLAND is directed [ ] by the Project [ ]

The construction of an island training site near Athens is virtually completed. Arrangements are now being made for training the first group of agents.

[ ] departed for [ ] on 3 June.

3. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY - (BOFLAND)

A. Paramilitary

(1) Four agents (Orange Team) and 250 pounds of supplies were dropped to Apple/2 on 4 June. Apple/2 reported that they did not receive this drop. On 25 June Apple/2 reported receipt of a verbal message from the Orange Team that the team is in the Kirdita area. Confirmation of the team's whereabouts and welfare will be sought by Apple/2.

(2) Apple/3, which is exfiltrating to Greece, encountered a Communist ambush on 5 June. The guide was wounded but the team has continued toward the border. Nothing has been heard from the team since 17 June. No conclusions have been drawn from this silence as yet but it is possible that the team has met with serious mishap.

B. Political-Psychological

(1) On 1 June the covert radio added another daily broadcast to its schedule, bringing the total to four a day. At the same time the radio started using the high power transmitters for all broadcasts rather than just for one morning broadcast.

(2) The semi-monthly newspaper Shqipëria was printed in Rome on schedule. Fifty-thousand copies of the miniature edition of the paper were printed and sent to Athens for use in air drops over Albania.

(3) The Albanian News Bulletin, printed irregularly in English, French and Italian published its 18th issue on 13 May 1953.

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Chief, SE-1

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